

# Temporary & Permanent Closure for USTs

## WHAT IS IT?

UST closure means taking a tank out of operation either on a temporary or permanent basis. Temporary closure is usually selected when the owner intends to operate the UST in the future. Permanent closure is usually selected when the owner or operator never intends to use the UST again or make a change-in-service to the UST system. This guidance document outlines the temporary and permanent closure requirements.

## TEMPORARY CLOSURE

- ▶ Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) may be temporarily closed for up to 12 months by following these requirements:
  1. Continue maintaining the UST system's leak detection, and *if your tank contains less than one inch of residue, you do not need to maintain leak detection.*
  2. Maintain corrosion protection, if required.
- ▶ If the UST system remains temporarily closed for more than three months but less than 12 months, the following additional steps must be taken:
  1. Keep vent lines open; and
  2. Cap and secure the following:
    - a) pumps
    - b) manways
    - c) ancillary equipment
    - d) all other lines

*ADEQ recommends you cap and secure sooner than three months.*

- ▶ Required Documentation: A [Notification for Underground Storage Tanks Form](#) must be submitted to ADEQ within 30 days after beginning Temporary Closure.

## TO BRING A UST SYSTEM BACK INTO OPERATION FROM TEMPORARY CLOSURE

- ▶ The UST system must be in full compliance with all applicable UST technical standards,
- ▶ The tank(s) must be brought back into service within the 12-month Temporary Closure Period, and
- ▶ A [Notification Form](#) must be submitted to ADEQ within 30 days after the UST system is back in operation.

## IF THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE WILL EXCEED 12 MONTHS

- ▶ Any UST system that is in temporary closure more than 12 months has two options:

**Option A** - You may request an extension of Temporary Closure, for which the following procedures must be followed:

1. Contact ADEQ at least 30 days prior to the end of the initial temporary closure date.
2. Perform a *Site Assessment* (if required) prior to the extension request.  
*Certain UST systems are exempt from performing a site assessment. Contact the UST section for further details*
3. Submit a [Notification Form](#) requesting extension of temporary closure and include the site assessment results (if required).

**Option B** - You may permanently close the UST system

## PERMANENT CLOSURE

The following procedures must be followed for UST Permanent Closure:

1. Notify ADEQ in writing of your intent to close the UST at least 30 days prior to the closure date.
2. At this time, ADEQ will assign a closure number.

3. Coordinate with the appropriate fire authority and ADEQ for the date and time of actual closure.
4. Use a tank service provider certified by ADEQ to decommission the UST.
5. Perform a site assessment.
6. Submit the [Notification Form](#) and the site assessment report within 30 days of the permanent closure date.

For details, refer to the [Permanent Closure Guidance Document](#) at ADEQ's website or contact the UST call line at (800) 234-5677 or (602) 771-4339.

► Types of permanent closure:

1. Removal of UST system from ground.
2. Closing in the ground by filling with an inert solid material, such as sand.
3. Change-in-Service from storage of a regulated to a non-regulated substance.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
UST & Division Support Section  
1110 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

(602) 771-4303  
toll free number: (800) 234-5677 Ext:771-4303  
Website: [www.azdeq.gov](http://www.azdeq.gov)

## CHECKLIST

### TEMPORARY CLOSURE

- ☐ Maintain leak detection on UST systems containing product
- ☐ Maintain corrosion protection system
- ☐ Leave vent lines open
- ☐ Cap and secure all other lines, pumps, manways and ancillary equipment
- ☐ Submit a notification form to ADEQ within 30 days of temporary closure
- ☐ Temporary closure for 12-month period

### PERMANENT CLOSURE

- ☐ Notify ADEQ 30 days prior to the date of closure
- ☐ Remove the UST system from the ground or follow in-ground closure requirements
- ☐ Perform and submit a site assessment
- ☐ Submit a notification form to ADEQ within 30 days of permanent closure

In the event of any discrepancy between this information and the Arizona Revised Statutes or Arizona Administrative Code, the statutes or rules shall take precedence.